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DR. RICHARD T. GILLESPIE
ELECTED TO FACULTY

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MISSION HAVEN

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THE NEW SESSION

DR. RICHARD THOMAS GILLESPIE, III TO BECOME PROFESSOR OF HOMILETICS

RICHARD THOMAS GILLESPIE, III

At its annual meeting on May 16, 1950, the Board of Directors of Columbia Theological Seminary extended a unanimous call for Dr. Richard T. Gillespie, III, Candidate Secretary of World Missions for the Presbyterian Church, U. S., to become Professor of Homiletics at this institution. Dr. Gillespie has accepted the call and will become a member of the seminary faculty on September 1. He expects to spend the autumn months in New York, where he will engage in study and conferences preparatory to his new duties, and will begin his work as a teacher with the opening of the winter quarter on December 5.

Dr. Gillespie's coming to Decatur will bring back into the life of Columbia Seminary an illustrious name which is already forever linked with its history. His father, Dr. Richard T. Gillespie, II, was the beloved president of the institution

from 1925-30 and was the leader in making possible its successful removal from Columbia, S. C., to Decatur and the provision of its splendid physical equipment on the new campus. To him the seminary owes a debt which it can never forget, and it is particularly appropriate that his eldest son should now have a part in carrying forward the work which the father so nobly instituted.

Richard Thomas Gillespie, III, was born in Florence, S. C., on July 23, 1909. He attended Presbyterian College at Clinton, S. C., and received his B.A. from that institution in 1930. Three years later he won his B.D. from Columbia Theological Seminary and was named as winner of the Anna Church Whitner Fellowship in recognition of his outstanding record as a student. He used that fellowship in graduate study at Emory University, which awarded him his M.A. in 1938. Subsequently he became a graduate student at Union Theological Seminary of Richmond, Va., where he earned his Th.D. in 1948.

During his last two years at Columbia Seminary, Dr. Gillespie was student pastor of the Ingleside Presbyterian Church, Scottdale, Ga. Following his graduation he was ordained to the ministry by Atlanta Presbytery and served as pastor of the Rock Springs Church at Atlanta from 1933 to 1937. He was then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Thomasville, Ga., for seven years before being called to his present position with the Board of World Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S., in 1944. As Candidate Secretary of World Missions for our Assembly he has rendered outstanding service in connection with the enlistment and training of missionary candidates, and has had an unusual opportunity to become intimately acquainted with the work of our church as a whole.

Dr. Gillespie married Miss Mary McGavock of Thomasville, Ga., in 1939. Their home has been blessed by the birth of four children: Betty, Mary, Sally and Richard Thomas, IV. The Gillespie family will move to Decatur in the late fall and will occupy the new faculty residence which

is being erected on the seminary campus and which will face on Kirk Road.

The addition of Dr. Gillespie to the seminary faculty will make possible the enlargement of its courses in the field of Homiletics, and should greatly enhance the effectiveness of the training given its students for their primary task as preachers of the Gospel. He is admirably equipped for his task by native gifts, by training, and by experience, and his acceptance of the position has been a source of deep gratification to friends and alumni of the seminary as well as to the Faculty and Board of Directors.

MISSION HAVEN BECOMES A REALITY

From the time of Columbia Seminary's removal to Decatur in 1927, plans have been made for the ultimate provision on its campus of apartments for use by missionaries on furlough. The carrying out of these plans has of necessity been long deferred. Through the loyal effort and generous gifts of the Women of the Church in the five supporting synods, the project is now becoming a reality, and the first unit of a court, to be known as Mission Haven, has been erected on the northwest corner of the seminary campus.

The first building provided for this purpose is a one story, brick structure and consists of two modern apartments. Each apartment includes a living and dining room, a kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom. All rooms will be completely and attractively furnished by the Women of the Church. The cost of the furnished building will amount to approximately $27,500.00.

The first missionary families to enjoy the occupancy of Mission Haven will be those of Rev. Alex McCutchen and Mr. James Halverstadt. Both of these men are former students of Columbia Seminary, and both are missionaries of our church to the Congo. It is expected that they will take up residence on the campus about September 1.

Applicants for apartments in Mission Haven have already been received from a number of missionaries who hope to come to Decatur during the next several years, and it is already evident that far more space will be needed than is now available. Officers of the five Synodicals have declared their determination to continue the work which has been so well begun, with a view to the erection of additional units of this important development at the earliest practicable date. Columbia Seminary would record its profound gratitude to them and to the five Synodicals for the splendid contribution which they are making, both to the life of the institution and to the cause of world missions.

PLANS MADE FOR COMPLETION OF LIBRARY CAMPAIGN

It is now a year since announcement was first made of a conditional grant of $100,000.00 to Columbia Seminary for the erection of a new library. This gift will become available to the institution only if $250,000.00 can be secured from other sources by October 1, 1951.

For various reasons no general effort has been made to raise the necessary funds up to the present time. However, a quiet approach has been made to individual friends of the seminary, and approximately $50,000.00 has been secured in this way. The principal effort to provide for the new building is scheduled for the coming fall, and the five supporting synods have been asked to give their full sanction and support to the undertaking. Reformation Sunday, October 29, has been suggested as a particularly appropriate date for the presentation of this appeal in behalf of Theological Education.

The growth of the seminary's student body in recent years has served to emphasize the necessity for the proposed addition to the school's equipment. The present library space in Campbell Hall is now over-crowded and is also needed for

the provision of additional classroom and office space. Of the $350,000.00 which is sought, $250,000.00 is to be used in the erection of the new building and $100,000.00 will be added to endowment for the maintenance of the library. The seminary earnestly appeals for the support of its friends that it may meet the challenge of the generous offer which has been made, and that the effectiveness of its service to the church may be enhanced.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR THE NEW SESSION

Columbia Theological Seminary will begin its new school year on September 19. The opening address of the session will be delivered by Dr. Vernon S. Broyles, Jr., Executive Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, at 8:00 o'clock that evening, and classes will meet according to schedule on the following day.

New students of the seminary will be expected to register on September 13 and to participate in the orientation program which has been arranged for the remainder of that week. Members of the upper classes will complete their registration on September 19.

Approximately sixty men are expected as members of the Junior Class which will begin its seminary training this fall. Five new graduate students have been accepted as candidates for the Th.M. Degree, and nine other new students will enter the Bible Training Course as candidates for the M.A. in Biblical Education. The total enrollment will apparently be the largest in the history of the seminary, with a student body of between 175 and 200.